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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/675,781	09/30/2003	Conor P. Cahill	06975-446001	6538
26171 7590 05/12/2008 FISH & RICHARDSON P.C. P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				
EXAMINER				
VU, KIEU D				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2175				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
05/12/2008		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/675,781

Applicant(s)

CAHILL, CONOR P.

Examiner

KIEU D. VU

Art Unit

2175

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10 April 2008.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 and 38-46 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36, 38-46 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the Reply filed on 04/10/08.
2. Claims 1-36 and 38-46 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-15, 18-28, and 32-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849), Kenig (US 20040189693), and DiAngelo (US 5977969).

Regarding claims 1, 25, 35, Patrick teaches a method for displaying a uniform resource locator (URL), the method comprising receiving an electronic document containing at least one predefined link selectable by a user (col. 2, lines 9-13), accessing a URL corresponding to at least one of the links presented for selection to a user (col. 2, lines 14-18) and identifying a portion of the URL that corresponds to a hostname component of the URL (identifying the link's URL domain, col. 2, lines 17-18). Patrick further teaches displaying the link and visually distinguishing external links (see Fig. 1a-1c) (see col. 3, lines 23-49). Patrick does not teach displaying the URL corresponding to the link. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by Kenig. Kenig teaches displaying a URL corresponding the link (object 232 is visually displayed showing the domain name corresponding for the selected IP address, [0045], Fig. 2). It

would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Kenig before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying external links taught by Patrick to include visually displaying the domain name taught by Kenig with the motivation being to provide the user with the domain name of the external link to help the user decide if the user chooses to visit the external link. Patrick and Kenig do not teach visually distinguishing the hostname component of the URL from other components of the URL. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by DiAngelo. DiAngelo teaches displaying a URL where the hostname component is visually distinguished from other components of the URL (see Fig. 3D). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick, Kenig, and DiAngelo before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying external links taught by Patrick and Kenig to include visually distinguishing the hostname component of the URL from other components of the URL taught by DiAngelo with the motivation being to enable the user to quickly and conveniently identify hostname component among other URL components.

Regarding claim 2, Patrick, as modified by Kenig, teaches the link is presented contemporaneously with the electronic document (Patrick, Fig. 1a-1c) (Kenig, Fig. 2).

Regarding claim 3, Patrick teaches wherein a software application used to display the electronic document automatically identifies the portion of the URL that corresponds to the hostname component of the URL (col 3, lines 23-31).

Regarding claim 4, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the hostname component of the URL is visually distinguished from other components of

the URL when a pointer is positioned over the link in the electronic document (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, see col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 5, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the hostname component of the URL is visually distinguished from other components of the URL when the link is selected (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, see col. 1, lines 45-49, col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 6, Patrick, as modified by Kenig, teaches wherein the link is selected through manipulation of a pointing device (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, mouse cursor, see col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2).

Regarding claims 7-8, Patrick teaches displaying a warning message in response to the selection of the link wherein the warning message requires a response before performing a redirection to the URL (using "visual warning" to communicate with the user to alert that the user is leaving to a different site, col. 1, lines 45-48).

Regarding claim 10, Patrick teaches the link corresponds to a selectable button in the electronic document (links in Fig. 1a-c are selectable)

Regarding claim 12, Patrick teaches the software application is selected from the group consisting of a word processing application, an electronic mail application, an instant messaging application, and a browser (col. 2, lines 37-50).

Regarding claim 13, Patrick teaches the electronic document is selected from the group consisting of a word processor file, an electronic mail message, an instant message, and a web page (Fig. 1a-1c).

Regarding claims 14 and 28, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches the hostname component of the URL is visually distinguished by using display characteristics for the hostname component that differ from display characteristics of other components of the URL (col. 3, lines 35-49) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 15, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches the display characteristics for the hostname component comprise at least one of:

a color for the hostname component that differs from a color of other components of the URL; or a font style for the hostname component that differs from a font style of other components of the URL; or a font size for the hostname component that differs from a font size of other components of the URL; or a font type for the hostname component that differs from a font type of other components of the URL; or a display effect for the hostname component (col. 3, lines 23-49) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 18, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches the URL, with the hostname component of the URL visually distinguished from other portions of the URL, is displayed in a user interface of a browser application (Patrick, Fig. 1a-c, col. 3, lines 23-49) (Kenig, Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 19, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the URL, with the hostname component of the URL visually distinguished from other portions of the URL, is displayed in an address field of the browser application user interface (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 20, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the URL, with the hostname component of the URL visually distinguished from

other portions of the URL, is displayed in a status bar of the browser application user interface. (Patrick, Fig. 1a-c, col. 3, lines 23-49, also see status bar on top of Fig 1a) (Kenig, Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 21, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the URL, with the hostname component of the URL visually distinguished from other portions of the URL, is displayed in the status bar of the browser application user interface when a pointer is positioned over a hyperlink displayed by the browser application (Patrick, Fig. 1a-c, col. 3, lines 23-49, also see status bar on top of Fig 1a) (Kenig, Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claims 22 and 32, Patrick teaches the hostname component of the URL comprises at least a second level domain name (Patrick, sub-domain, col. 3, lines 35-49).

Regarding claims 23 and 33, Patrick, Kenig, and DiAngelo do not teach wherein the hostname component of the URL comprises at least a portion of the URL that follows an "@" symbol in the URL. However, the hostname component of the URL comprises at least a portion of the URL that follows an "@" symbol in the URL is known in the art (for example: email address). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick, Kenig, and DiAngelo before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying external links taught by Patrick to include hostname component of the URL comprises at least a portion of the URL that follows an "@" symbol in the URL so that email addresses can be analyzed by Patrick's software.

Regarding claims 24 and 34, Patrick teaches wherein the hostname component of the URL comprises the first and second level domain names (see domain and sub-domain in col. 3, lines 23-49).

Regarding claim 26, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches causing one or more processors to perform further operations comprising: receiving a user selection of the link; and displaying the URL on the user interface, with the hostname component of the URL visually distinguished from other components of the URL, in response to the user selection of the hyperlink (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, see col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

Regarding claim 27, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches wherein the link is displayed on the user interface and the user selection of the link comprises one of receiving an indication that a pointer is positioned over the link or receiving an indication that the link is selected through manipulation of a pointing device (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, mouse cursor, see col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

5. Claims 9, 11, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849), Kenig (US 20040189693), DiAngelo (US 5977969), and Jones et al (hereinafter "Jones", US 5961591).

Regarding claims 9 and 31, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, teaches displaying warning message alerting user that the user is leaving the current site (col. 1, lines 44-49), but Patrick does not teach displaying the warning message, only if the URL is determined to be suspicious. Jones teaches obtaining rating for a web page (Fig. 8)

and displaying a warning message to alert the user about characteristics of the web page to be displayed (see message 531 in Fig. 5) (see col. 6, lines 2-22 and 47-54, Fig. 5-6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Jones before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick to include displaying a warning message to alert the user about characteristics of the web page to be displayed taught by Jones with the motivation being to provide the user with specific information on the characteristics of the external site to be displayed.

Regarding claim 11, Patrick, as modified by Kenig, DiAngelo, and Jones, teaches wherein a software application automatically determines whether the URL is suspicious and visually distinguishes the hostname component of the URL from other components of the URL only if the URL is determined to be suspicious (Patrick, see Fig. 1a-1c, see col. 1, lines 45-49, col. 3, lines 11-13 and 23-49) (Kenig, [0045], Fig. 2) (Jones, see message 531 in Fig. 5, see col. 6, lines 2-22 and 47-54, Fig. 5-6) (DiAngelo, Fig. 3D).

6. Claims 16-17 and 29-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849), Kenig (US 2004/0189693), DiAngelo (US 5977969) and Kubala (US 2004/0169685).

Regarding claims 16 and 29, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and DiAngelo, does not teach the hostname component of the URL is visually distinguished by repositioning the hostname component. Kubala teaches a method for alerting user about a site the user is going to visit when the hypertext link is selected, the method further repositions the link name (see "David's Bikes" link (306a) in Fig. 3, also see [0027]). It would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick, Kenig, and Kubala before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick and Kenig to include repositioning hostname component (link) taught by Kubala with the motivation being to alert the user with specific information on the characteristics of the external site to be displayed.

Regarding claim 17, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and Kubala, teaches redisplaying the hostname component at the beginning of the displayed URL (Kubala, see "David's Bikes" link (306a) in Fig. 3, also see [0027])(Kenig, Fig. 2, [0045]).

Regarding claim 30, Patrick, as modified by Kenig and Kubala, teaches displaying the hostname component in isolation (Kubala, see "David's Bike" redisplayed in pop-up 304a, Fig. 3).

7. Claims 36, 38, 40, and 43-46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849) and Jones et al (hereinafter "Jones", US 5961591) and Feuerstein et al (hereinafter "Feuerstein", US 7058978).

Regarding claim 36, Patrick teaches a method for displaying a uniform resource locator (URL), the method comprising accessing a URL corresponding to a link presented for selection to a user (col. 2, lines 52-58) (Fig. 1a-c); identifying a portion of a URL that corresponds to a hostname component of the URL (col. 1, lines 20-43, col. 3, lines 23-49); and displaying a warning message relating to the hostname component of the URL (using "visual warning" to communicate with the user to alert that the user is leaving to a different site, col. 1, lines 45-48). Patrick teaches displaying warning

message alerting user that the user is leaving the current site (col. 1, lines 44-49), but Patrick does not teach determining that the URL is suspicious wherein displaying the warning message is performed in response to the determination. Jones teaches obtaining rating for a web page (Fig. 8) and displaying a warning message to alert the user about characteristics of the web page to be displayed (see message 531 in Fig. 5) (see col. 6, lines 2-22 and 47-54, Fig. 5-6). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Jones before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick to include displaying a warning message to alert the user about characteristics of the web page to be displayed taught by Jones with the motivation being to provide the user with specific information on the characteristics of the external site to be displayed. Patrick in view of Jones does not teach identifying at least one other portion of the URL that corresponds to other components of the URL; determining whether the URL is suspicious based on an analysis of the hostname component and the other components. Feuerstein teaches that a URL includes host names component and other component and further teaches identifying at least one other portion of the URL that corresponds to other components of the URL; determining whether the URL is suspicious based on an analysis of the hostname component and the other components (col.6, lines 6-45, Fig. 6, col. 9, lines 33-39). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Feuerstein before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick to include determining

whether the URL is suspicious based on an analysis of the hostname component and the other components taught by Feuerstein with the motivation being to enhance the efficiency in recognizing suspicious web pages.

Regarding claim 38, Patrick, as modified by Jones, teaches requiring a user to acknowledge the hostname component of the URL before providing access to an electronic file identified by the URL (Jones, password is required to see the site, see message 532 in Fig. 5).

Regarding claim 40, Patrick teaches wherein a software application automatically identifies the portion of the URL that corresponds to the hostname component of the URL (col. 2, lines 37-57).

Regarding claim 43, Patrick teaches wherein the warning message is displayed in response to a selection of the link ("visual warning to the user that they are leaving the current site", col. 1, lines 45-49).

Regarding claim 44, Patrick, as modified by Jones and Feuerstein, teaches wherein determining whether the URL is suspicious based on an analysis of the other components includes determining a position of the hostname component relative to the other components (Feuerstein, col.6, lines 6-45, Fig. 6, col. 9, lines 33-39).

Regarding claim 45, Patrick, as modified by Jones and Feuerstein, teaches wherein determining whether the URL is suspicious based on an analysis of the other components includes identifying at least one of the other components that resembles a hostname component (Feuerstein, col.6, lines 6-45, Fig. 6, col. 9, lines 33-39).

Regarding claim 46, Patrick, as modified by Jones and Feuerstein, teaches determining whether the URL is suspicious by determining whether the hostname component of the URL corresponds to the information in the link (Feuerstein, col.6, lines 6-45, Fig. 6, col. 9, lines 33-39).

8. Claims 39, 41-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849), Jones et al (hereinafter "Jones", US 5961591), Feuerstein et al (hereinafter "Feuerstein", US 7058978) and Kenig (US 20040189693).

Regarding claim 39, Patrick, as modified by Jones and Feuerstein, teaches displaying warning message upon selection of an external link (col. 1, lines 45-48) but does not teach the warning message identifies the hostname component of the URL. Kenig teaches displaying a hostname component of an URL in response to selection of a corresponding link (Fig. 2, [0045]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Kenig before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick to include displaying the hostname component taught by Kenig with the motivation being to provide the user with more information on the external link.

Regarding claim 41, Patrick, as modified by Jones and Feuerstein, teaches displaying warning message upon selection of an external link (col. 1, lines 45-48) but does not teach the warning message displays the entire URL. Kenig teaches displaying a hostname component of an URL in response to selection of a corresponding link (Fig. 2, [0045]). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and Kenig before him at the time the invention was made, to modify

the interface for displaying warning when connecting to external links taught by Patrick to include displaying the hostname component taught by Kenig with the motivation being to provide the user with more information on the external link.

9. Claim 42 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Patrick (US 7,136,849), Jones et al (hereinafter "Jones", US 5961591), Feuerstein et al (hereinafter "Feuerstein", US 7058978), Kenig (US 20040189693), and DiAngelo

Regarding claim 42, Patrick, as modified, teaches the method of claim 41 above but fails to teach the hostname component of the URL is visually distinguished from other components of the URL. However, such feature is known in the art as taught by DiAngelo. DiAngelo teaches displaying a URL where the hostname component is visually distinguished from other components of the URL (see Fig. 3D). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teaching of Patrick and DiAngelo before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the interface for displaying external links taught by Patrick to include visually distinguishing the hostname component of the URL from other components of the URL taught by DiAngelo with the motivation being to enable the user to quickly and conveniently identify hostname component among other URL components.

10. Applicant's arguments filed on 04/10/08 have been considered.

Applicant argues

"The cited references at least fail to teach receiving an electronic document containing at least one predefined link selectable by a user and accessing a URL corresponding to at least one of the links in the electronic document."

Examiner respectfully disagrees since Patrick provides a method for analyzing links (predefined link) on a web document (electronic document) accessed by a client (selectable) (see col. 2, lines 9-13). Patrick further teaches accessing a URL corresponding to at least one of the links presented for selection to a user (col. 2, lines 14-18) (see col. 3, lines 23-49).

Applicant's argument regarding Hartselle is now moot in view of the new ground of rejection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kieu D. Vu. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Thu from 7:00AM to 3:00PM at 571-272-4057.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Bashore, can be reached at 571-272-4088.

The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are as follows:

571-273-8300

and / or:

571-273-4057 (use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper / amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions).

Art Unit: 2175

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Kieu D Vu/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2175